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NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2014

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To say that I am honored to be part of the Friends of the Library is an understatement. The Wilson County Public Library offers its patrons such exceptional opportunities beginning with an outstanding selection of in-house inventory, e-books, programs, computer classes and most important an enthusiastic staff and a dynamic director.

For those of you who may have missed the first program of the year, Settle Plyler Monroe presented a very personal glimpse of her experiences as a blogger and writer. Mrs. Monroe, who has many Wilson connections, has been published in numerous magazines and also is a contributing blogger for the News and Observer.

We had an overflow crowd who came to hear and speak with her. We look forward to upcoming programs and hope for as much community support in the future.

Spring is a great time to sort through items that have accumulated over the fall and winter. When spring cleaning, please don't forget to bring excess books to the library. They can supplement current inventory at the main library and branches and also be offered for sale at the Whirligig Festival in the fall. Children's books are especially popular at the book sale. We are looking at ways to make the sale books more accessible to customers at the festival.

Looking forward to a great year for the Wilson County Public Library!! See you there.

Trish Abney

WILSON READS

The Friends of the Wilson County and Barton College Library are working together on the 2014 "Wilson Reads" community literacy project. The title chosen for this year's "Wilson Reads" selection is *A Land More Kind than Home* by Wiley Cash. Dr. Cash earned his Doctor of Philosophy in English from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. He has held residency positions at Yaddo and MacDowell Colony. Presently he teaches at Southern New Hampshire University in the low residency Masters of Fine Arts program. He grew up in western North Carolina and lives with his wife, Mallory Brady Cash in Wilmington, North Carolina. Wilson will be able to meet Dr. Cash in the fall. Plans are being made for his arrival when we will have a book signing, discussion, and listening session with him. More information about the 2014 "Wilson Reads" program will be available soon.

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\$5 - \$49

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Lee Ange Wilhelm
M. E. (Pete) Williams
Gene and Glenda Wilson
Jane Wood
Paula Wright

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\$50 - \$99

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Meta P. Allen
Avenue Gardens Florist
Michael and Callie Baillie
Mr. and Mrs. Watson Barnes
Bill and Olivia Boles
Carol Bowen
Tom and Deborah Boyd
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin B. Brice
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Kimberly Van Dyk
Mrs. Doris S. Walston
Martha K. Walston
Patrick and Virginia Williams

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\$100 - \$249

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John and Viki Anthony
Neil and Connie Baker
Ann Benson
Jackie Bissette
Susan and David Boyette
Faye and Earl Boykin
Mrs. S. M. Cozart
Kelly W. Dail
Mr. and Mrs. James J. Edmundson
Nancy and Woody Harrison
Richard and Norfleet Herring
Kim and Charles Hoffman
Elizabeth Myatt Holsten
Tom and Vicki Hooper
Joyner's Funeral Home
Betty B. Leder
Robert H. and Diane H. Matthews
Betty Ray McCain
Jean and Cecil McLamb
Mary McLees-Lane and Alan Lane
Eldon and Bea Newton
Mr. and Mrs. David S. Orcutt
Barry Page
Debbie Phillips
Mary Bryan Rasberry
Claude M. and Suzanne C. Reynolds
Tom Rhodes
John and Betty Sharpe
Charles T. Shirley
Mrs. Tom Smoot
Frank and Elizabeth Stokes
Kathy and Bill Vaughan
Mr. and Mrs. D. Stuart Walston, Jr.
Henry and Betty Lou Walston
Sarah Warden and Dr. Michael
Kushner
Robert Wicker
Jack and Sheila Wiggins

BESTSELLERS

\$250 - 499

Sandy and DeeAnn Arens
Linda and Neill Connor
Ralph and Sue Dail
Charles and Mary Lou Rakow
Bob Reardon and Susan Nealen
Bob and Merry Simmons

PULITZERS

\$500 +

Ginger and Mike Jablonski

CONGRATULATIONS TO LINDA MATTHEWS RECIPIENT OF THE BREAKING NEW GROUND SERVICE AWARD



Linda Matthews received the Breaking New Ground Service Award at the annual meeting of Friends of the Wilson County Public Library. Following is the presentation by Sandy Arens, Chair of the Trustees of the Wilson County Public Library.

The Breaking New Ground Award was first presented February 2003 at the ground breaking ceremony for the new library renovation and expansion. This award is based on five criteria – Stewardship – Service – Dedication – Advocacy and Vision. There have been 6 recipients of this award over the years. Tonight we have the honor of presenting the 7th to a most deserving individual who is a dedicated advocate of our Library, Linda Matthews.

First and foremost Linda is a born leader whose personal generosity with her time and talents have greatly benefitted the Wilson County Public Library. She does not settle for less than the best. She has the ability to identify people and resources that can be brought to bear in making a goal a reality. Her nature is to be all inclusive in marshalling people to meet an objective. Her dedication to seeing a task through to completion and her ability to inspire others by example has made a difference in forwarding the goals and objectives of the Library.

As a member of the Friends Linda was instrumental in creating working committees, helped in the computerizing of membership lists, making sure finances were well documented and tax reports were timely reported. Linda took an active role in the Library Bond Referendum effort to provide 1.5 million for the construction of a new addition. She was involved in lobbying groups who otherwise may have said no to any expenditure. When the project was completed Linda helped organize and took a major part in insuring a wonderful grand opening of our new facility. Linda was also instrumental in enlisting the Greater Wilson Rotary Club in donating \$50,000 to the children's library. In 2002 Linda was the driving force in creating the Friends Endowment and to insure it qualified for the NC Community Foundation. Her legal and financial work helped to make the endowment a reality.

In terms of leadership Linda was president of the Friends from 2003 to 2005. She became a Trustee in 2007 and served as chairman from 2009 to 2011 also serving as Secretary in the interim years. As a Trustee she has been dedicated to improving the Library in a variety of ways. She was a key person on the search committee that brought Becky Callison to our Library as Director. She was a fearless advocate of developing and adhering to the Library's five year plan which has resulted in quantum leaps in customer service, the installation of the Library's new operating system and the roll out of e-books. Linda recently organized the sale of the Library's old half round windows that generated \$1,600 for the Friends of the Library.

As now Chairman of Trustees I personally feel Linda Mathews has been an outstanding example of a totally engaged and passionate advocate of our Library and a dedicated supporter of this institution. I could have not followed a better example of fine leadership qualities than those possessed by Linda Matthews.

Many of us have worked with Linda through the Friends or on the Board of Trustees and know she is committed to our Library. Her name has been added to the Breaking New Ground Plaque and a book of her choice will be given to the Library, dedicated to Linda and noting in that book the occasion of the honorarium.

HOMEBOUND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Wilson County Public Library is proud to offer Homebound service to Wilson County patrons. An important goal of Wilson County Public Library is to ensure that all residents of Wilson County have access to our library's staff, services, and materials. Homebound service is provided for patrons who are no longer physically able to visit the Wilson County Public Library. Eligibility for Homebound service includes, but is not limited to, patrons with physical disabilities, debilities of advanced age, reading or sight impairments, or extenuating circumstances that prevent patrons from using the library in a traditional manner. Qualifying Homebound patrons may request fiction and nonfiction books, large print books, magazines, books on CD, and DVDs.

A link is available from the library webpage (<http://wilsoncountypubliclibrary.org>) by clicking on "Services" and then on "Homebound". The link allows patrons to register for Homebound services. In addition, the North Carolina Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NCLBPH) also offers free materials for U.S. residents with significant visual impairment or a qualifying physical handicap. The application for services from the NCLBPH is available at <http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/lbph/eligibility-app.html>.

For additional information please call the Main Library at 252-237-5355 x5068.

LOCAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY NEWS

Will Robinson, Local History and Genealogy Librarian, has been very involved in the North Carolina Digital Yearbook project in collaboration with UNC Chapel Hill's Digital NC (<http://digitalnc.org>). Earlier this year he delivered 33 yearbooks to Chapel Hill for the project. Recently he sent all of the Darden High School Yearbooks and the Frederick Douglass High School 1990 Reunion program to be included on the website. Mr. Robinson needs your help in locating more Wilson County high school yearbooks for the project. If you have yearbooks that are from 1963 or older, please contact him at wrobinson@wilson-co.com or by calling 252.237.5355 x5029.

The Local History and Genealogy room now has a Flickr page! The local history photograph collection is being digitized and those images that have been scanned have been uploaded to Flickr, a great platform for disseminating our unique materials to people anywhere in the world! The Flickr page can be accessed on the Wilson County Public Library webpage (<http://wilsoncountypubliclibrary.org>) by clicking on "About Us" on the left side of the page, then clicking on "Branches and Departments" and then clicking on "Genealogy". The Flickr page can be accessed more directly at: (<http://flickr.com/photos/wilsonlocalhistory>).

On Saturday, April 26 the Wilson County Public Library will be conducting a "Genealogy Day". Mr. Robinson and volunteers will be helping people who want to get started researching their family tree and will also be offering digitization services with the department's new XL scanner for anyone who would like to digitize important family photos. For more details, contact him at wrobinson@wilson-co.com or by calling 252.237.5355 x5029.

The Wilson County Public Library now has online access to the *Wilson Daily Times* (from August, 2007, to the present) through the NewsBank database. This database is keyword searchable for easy access. Additionally, through NewsBank, patrons can access 24 different news magazines ranging from the *New Yorker* to *Popular Science!* Newsbank can be accessed by clicking on the icon for "NewsBank - America's News" on the right hand side of the library's webpage.

Do you want to continue to learn all the latest news from the Local History and Genealogy Room? Mr. Robinson has been updating a blog with local events, genealogy news, and lists of new materials that have been recently added to the collection. His blog can be accessed through the library's website following the steps listed above, or it can be accessed at <http://wilsoncountylocalhistorylibrary.wordpress.com/>.

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